

Message Text

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ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DLOS-09 FEA-01 ACDA-07
AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 ERDA-05
FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /123 W
-----272026Z 012503 /46

R 271251Z APR 77
FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3621
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
USMISSION USBERLIN
USMISSION NATO
USNMR SHAPE

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EEC, EFIS, PLOS
SUBJECT: THIRD ROUND OF EC FISHERY NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE USSR

REF: EC BRUSSELS 3325 (NOTAL)

1. AS HAD BEEN LARGELY ANTICIPATED, THE THIRD ROUND OF EC
FISHERY NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE USSR APRIL 19-21 ENDED IN-

CONCLUSIVELY, BUT NEGOTIATIONS ARE TO BE RESUMED TOWARD
THE END OF MAY . THE SOVIET SIDE WAS REPRESENTED BY V.K.

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ZILANOV, HEAD OF THE FISHING INDUSTRY OF THE NORTHERN
BASIN, ALTHOUGH MINISTER OF FISHERIES ISHKOV WAS PRESENT.
ACCORDING TO COMMISSION SOURCES, WHEN ISHKOV'S REQUESTED
PERSONAL APPOINTMENTS WITH COMMISSION PRESIDENT JENKINS OR
OTHER EC COMMISSIONERS COULD NOT BE ARRANGED,
(NOTE: JENKINS WAS ON VISIT TO U.S. AND OTHER APPROPRIATE
COMMISSIONERS NOT AVAILABLE), ISHKOV SPENT

ALMOST ALL HIS TIME AT HIS HOTEL BEFORE LEAVING FOR ICELAND AT THE END OF LAST WEEK.

2. COMMISSION SOURCES INFORMED THE MISSION (AND THE PRESS REPORTED) THAT THE SOVIET NEGOTIATORS CONCENTRATED THEIR EFFORTS ON OBTAINING AN EC ESTIMATE OF HOW MUCH FISH SOVIET FISHERMEN WOULD BE ENTITLED TO CATCH UNDER AN EVENTUAL AGREEMENT. THE SOVIETS PROPOSED A PROTOCOL SETTING ANNUAL QUOTAS TO BE NEGOTIATED SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH THE FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT. REGARDING THE INTERIM FISHING ARRANGMENTS, THEY PRESENTED A LIST OF AROUND 90 VESSELS, FISHING PLANS FOR SOVIET FISHING IN EC WATERS THROUGH THE END OF JUNE, AND REVISION OF COEFFICIENTS TO DETERMINE HOW MANY SMALL FISHING BOATS CAN HARVEST THE SAME CATCH QUOTAS AS A FEW LARGE BOATS.

3. EC NEGOTIATORS (SCOTT FOR THE EC COUNCIL AND SIMMONET FOR THE COMMISSION) ARGUED (AS THEY HAVE IN THE PAST) THAT THE USSR MUST FIRST CONCLUDE THE FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT BEFORE THERE CAN BE ANY DISCUSSION OF CATCH FIGURES. THEY REFUSED TO ACCEPT THE FULL LIST OF SOVIET VESSELS, POINTED OUT THAT THE EC COUNCIL HAD ONLY AUTHORIZED SOVIET FISHING IN EC WATERS THROUGH MAY 31, AND INSISTED THAT THE PRESENT BOAT CONVERSION COEFFICIENTS WOULD BE UTILIZED DURING THE INTERIM REGIME, ALTHOUGH THE PROPOSED NEW ONES COULD BE CONSIDERED FOR THE FUTURE.

4. ACCORDING TO COMMISSION SOURCES, AGREEMENT HAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BEEN REACHED ON MOST OF THE LANGUAGE IN THE AGREEMENT. THE SOVIETS AGREE TO INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION AS LONG AS THERE IS A PROVISION FOR A JOINT FISHERY COMMISSION OR BOARD. THE EC IS PREPARED TO AGREE TO A SOVIET REQUEST FOR FURTHER AMPLIFICATION, POSSIBLY IN AN AGREED MINUTE, OF THE PHRASE "SATISFACTORY BALANCE" OF FISHING POSSIBILITIES BY THE TWO PARTIES, WHICH, ACCORDING TO PARAGRAPH 2 OF THE EC DRAFT AGREEMENT, IS EVENTUALLY TO BE ACHIEVED. THERE HAS BEEN APPARENTLY NO FURTHER DISCUSSION OF THE "BERLIN CLAUSE" AND IDENTIFICATION OF THE SIGNATORIES TO THE AGREEMENT AND ITS TITLE, WITH THE SOVIET NEGOTIATORS IMPLYING THAT FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF THESE SENSITIVE POLITICAL ISSUES IS DEPENDENT UPON ASSURANCE THAT FISHING ALLOTMENTS THE USSR CAN EXPECT ARE SUFFICIENTLY LARGE.

5. COMMISSION OFFICIALS BELIEVE THAT NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE USSR (AND PROBABLY POLAND AND THE GDR) HAVE REACHED AN IMPASSE WHICH CAN ONLY BE BROKEN WHEN

THE EC RESPONDS TO THE SOVIET DESIRE TO KNOW WHAT
THE GENERAL MAGNITUDE OF THEIR FUTURE CATCHES IN EC
WATERS WILL BE. UNTIL THE EC REACHES AGREEMENT ON
ITS INTERNAL FISHERY REGIME AND ESTABLISHMENT OF
FISHING QUOTAS FOR EC FISHERMEN, HOWEVER,IT CANNOT
FOR POLITICAL OR FISHERY CONSERVATION TECHNICAL REASONS
DETERMINE CATCHES IN EC WATERS FOR THE USSR OR OTHER
THIRD-COUNTRIES. EC SOURCES ARE NOT SANGUINE THAT
THIS WILL BE POSSIBLE IN THE NEAR FUTURE GIVEN CURRENT
DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE MEMBER STATES AND, HENCE,
BELIEVE THAT CONCLUSION OF FISHERY AGREEMENTS WITH THE
USSR AND THE TWO OTHER EASTERN STATES WILL NOT TAKE
PLACE FOR SOME TIME. HINTON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NEGOTIATIONS, FISHING AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ECBRU04203
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770147-0456
Format: TEL
From: EC BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770416/aaaaamsq.tel
Line Count: 129
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 545ac19c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 EC BRUSSELS 3325
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2683332
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THIRD ROUND OF EC FISHERY NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE USSR
TAGS: EFIS, PLOS, UR, EEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/545ac19c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009